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ABSTRACT

This report describes 38 model school-business partnerships that are being conducted in South Carolina. The 38 reports were gathered from 24 school districts and 3 statewide projects. Criteria for selection were that the partnerships must be in some way exemplary of the program and the school district must have reported in some detail their business/education partnership. Some of the activities represented in the partnerships include businesses adopting schools, donations of business equipment, businesses providing speakers for the schools and field trips to their facilities, police and National Guard partnerships with students, rewards from fast-food restaurants, honor rolls published by banks, and cash grants and awards from the businesses to the schools and students. (KC)

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Business/Education Partnerships in South Carolina

— Model Projects —

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Department of Education
Charlie G. Williams, State Superintendent

March 1986

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Foreword

This collection of thirty-eight reports from twenty-four school districts and three statewide projects represents only a sample of the number of Business/Education Partnerships that are improving the quality of education in South Carolina. The criteria for selection were two: the partnerships must be in some way exemplary of the program and the school district must have reported in some detail their Business/Education Partnership.

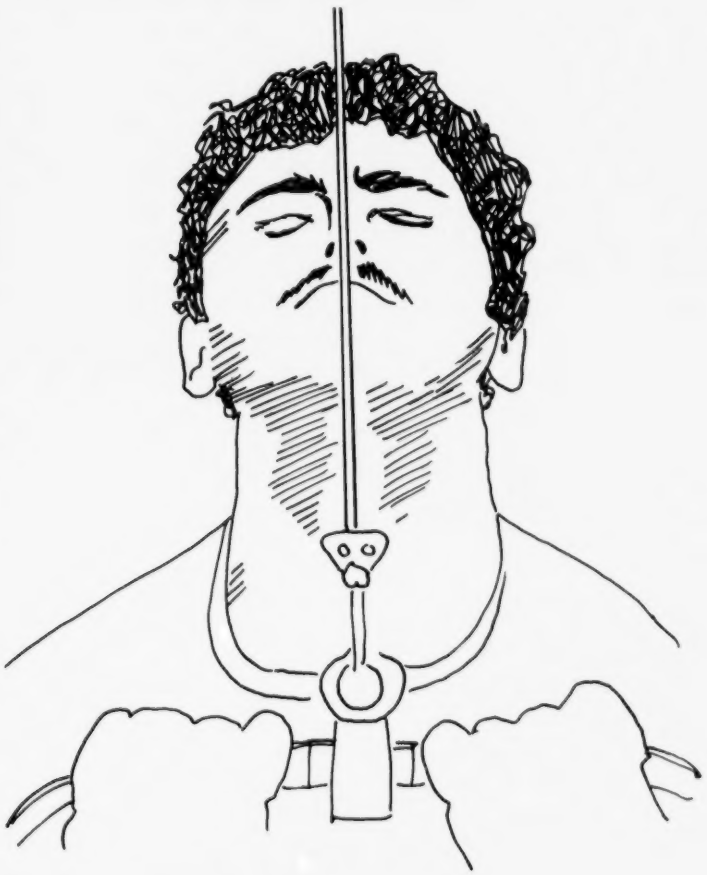
The *Education Improvement Act* is now concluding its second year, and therefore most of the long-term effects have yet to be perceived. Some school districts were already in the enviable position of having formed Business/Education Partnerships before the *Act* recommended them; others were in the process of doing so; still others found in the legislative provision the opportunity to proceed with projects that had previously existed only as speculation. All those who have seized this opportunity to expand their educational programs deserve special recognition for their foresight and enterprise.

Several districts sent lists of businesses that have adopted schools or had some other relationship with a school or with the district as a whole; others merely indicated that such relationships existed without providing details. Thus, only those districts who elected to submit a fairly extensive description of their project are included in this report.

The reports are encouraging; without reference to any specific partnership, it is safe to say that, whatever their reasons, the leaders of the private sector in South Carolina *are* taking a great interest in helping to improve the schools. From donating employee time to lowering the millage, from using proven staff development methods for improving the managerial skills of the school administrators, the business community of the state is helping our schools to improve education practices. The result cannot but be profitable for South Carolina schools.

Sweat 'n' Strain

Physical education programs at Westside and T.L. Hanna High Schools in Anderson District 5 have been enhanced this past year by the addition of weight machines, donated by Holiday Health and Fitness Center of Anderson. Moved by Masters Moving & Storage, the machines, each of which represents a gift of $20-25,000, are used in strength and fitness classes, which concentrate on the students' assessing their state of fitness at the beginning of the year and measuring their progress. Denny Schaffer, president of Holiday Health and Fitness, said he donated the equipment because his clubs are closed to members under 18, and that was "eliminating a portion of the community that's close to my heart." Coach Ted Luckadoo of Westwood High, who carefully monitors the students' cardiovascular fitness, agrees that the youngsters sometimes make dramatic progress; and he adds that such community participation makes them feel good about themselves.



Food Lion Roars

Food Lion, Inc. of Elloree has been nominated by Dr. Ellison M. Smith, Superintendent of Orangeburg District 7, for a Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. The nomination was seconded by Mr. James H. Shirer of Elloree and Mayor W.B. Bookart. Food Lion has made an unsolicited gift of $78,837, which will allow the District Board to proceed with planned improvements and to lower the local millage. The corporation has also provided tours of their facilities, worked with the high school guidance director in hiring full and part-time workers, assisted the elementary school in activity programs, and appointed a person to work with the superintendent on the District Information Council, where a program of community interest classes will be developed.

In a letter to the superintendent, Eugene R. McKinley, Vice-President fof Human Resources, mentioned that this contribution exceeds the amount of the tax valuation of the property acquired in Elloree, but that it is consistent with Food Lion's philosophy to work with and for the communities into which they locate. He also pointed out that since a large percentage of the work force will come from the Elloree area, it is critical that an excellent school system be in place, a situation that will be mutually beneficial. He closed by saying that he was looking forward to working with the community for many years to come.

Besides reducing millage the gift will enable the renovations program at the elementary school to be expanded beyond original estimates and to expand the adult education program as planned. Having the support of a major industry will be of extreme help as the district prepares for the Southern Association Accreditation of the schools and improves overall quality.

No Money Down

The Cheraw area public schools are acitvely involved with the Adopt-a-School program. The program was begun in the fall of 1982 by larger school districts and metropolitan areas, the program was begun in the fall of 1982 by the Cheraw Chamber of Commerce. Now co-sponsored by the Chamber and the Chesterfield County School District, the program has more than 60 volunteers who cover a wide range of topics, including business, crafts and recreation, fire and health safety, history, travels, English, job hunting skills, math and science, and miscellaneous subjects.

Volunteers are drawn from the area's major industries, city and county government, and the local citizenry. They share interests, talents, and experiences with students in kindergarten through grade 12. Because they are excellent sources of information that might otherwise not be available, the volunteers are often used in conjunction with a particular subject being studied in class.

The program operates on a simple, linear basis: a notebook containing information about each volunteer is placed in each of the five school libraries; the teacher decides which volunteer is needed and when, and gets in touch with the librarian; the librarian contacts the Adopt-a-School coordinator, who gets in touch with the industry contact person; once the time has been arranged with the volunteer, the coordinator notifies the librarian. This system assures that confusion will not be created by multiple phone calls. It also allows the coordinator to monitor the number of times a particular volunteer is being used so that his or her services will not be abused; it also insures that the volunteer has been properly notified.

Presentations generally last 30 minutes with questions and answers, and sometimes include slides, a demonstration, or other visual aid; the school provides any necessary media equipment. After the presentation, the volunteer and the teacher complete an evaluation form which is used to relay suggestions, problems, and other feedback to assist in the program's success

Perhaps the best part of this program is that, at this point, it does not require financial backing; what it does require, however, is the time and support of Cheraw's local industries and citizens. It not only benefits the students, but it is also an excellent way for the public to see firsthand what is happening in the local schools.

Guardsmen in School

Florence School Districts 2, 3, 4, 5 Adult/Community Education and the South Carolina National Guard have established a unique partnership in Florence County.

Under new regulations, in order for a guardsman to be promoted to sergeant, he must have a high school credential. In the Lake City unit about thirty men had not completed high school. Trisha Caulder, Director of Adult/Community Education was contacted by the local officers of the unit about the problem.

In October of 1984 an adult learning lab was established in the armory through a joint effort by the guard and the adult education staff. The men were given the option of earning a high school diploma or a GED certificate. Not only did the guardsmen respond, but their spouses, relatives, friends, and other interested community members joined the class.

The guard provided the facility, manpower to assist with the program, supplies, and financial assistance, while the school districts provided the instructors and the teaching materials.

The results were amazing. Within a short period of time sixty persons were attending the class. By May 1985 approximately one-third of them had earned their credentials.

As a result of this pilot program, other programs have been established in armories throughout South Carolina. Major General T. Eston Marchant, Adjutant General of South Carolina, has taken a great deal of interest in the program and has recommended that classes be established in all armories where a need exists. He has nominated the program for a 1986 Adjutants General Association of the United States Award.

Meet Deputy Mac

Florence School Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 have formed a most unusual partnership with the local McDonald's Corporation and the Florence County Sheriff's Department. Trisha Caulder, Director of Adult and Community Education for Districts 2, 3, 4, & 5, became very interested in a child abuse and safety program that would use a robot to relay safety messages to the children. Contacts were made with the owner and general manager of the Florence McDonald's, the Florence County Sheriff, and the five superintendents. Each party agreed to contribute to the project, McDonald's and the school districts paying for the robot and the Sheriff's Department taking care of the manpower needed to operate and schedule the program.

Deputy Mac was sworn in as a member of the Sheriff's Department on October 2, 1985 in an official ceremony at the Florence City-County complex. Since then he has been in great demand at the public and private schools, and at malls, fairs, churches, etc. He has the capability of assisting in programs on child safety, child abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, traffic safety, bicycle safety, vandalism, shoplifting, etc.

In just a few weeks Deputy Mac has reached hundreds of children in Florence County with safety tips and information that could possibly save their lives or the life of someone else. He is doing a commendable job with the children and is accomplishing well the task for which the partnership was established.

Lancaster Area Schools Profit from a Variety of Programs by Local Businesses

The Lancaster Area Schools have been involved in some very exciting partnerships. These partnerships have assisted the students dents as well as involved the community in the educational program of the Lancaster Area Schools.

Duke Power Company has provided many excellent services to the schools. Among those services were a series of workshops ranging from stress management to aquatic biology. Duke Power has also provided tutors for several students who need extra help in certain areas. This individualized help has really made a difference for these students.

The Pizza Hut is sponsoring a campaign to increase elementary students' recreational reading. This program is called "Book It". "Book It" rewards students who complete a specified number of books with a "Book It" button and a free Pizza Hut Personal Size Pan Pizza. This program continues for five consecutive months - allowing students to build up during the program or to begin at any month.

Hardee's has contributed incentives for student achievement by donating certificates for free hamburgers and french fries. These certificates are given to the individial schools to be used for honor roll students, students who have shown improvement, etc. Hardee's has also given coupons to be distributed to the teachers for their personal use for a job well done.

The Lancaster Telephone Company has been very helpful in providing the teachers with an actual telephone unit for use in developing telephone skills. The unit consists of two telephones connected to a system that enables them to work as real telephone lines. This contribution has been effective in teaching telephone manners, emergency situations, and language expressions. Telephone books are also made available to teachers for classroom use.

Involvement of the community leaders in the schools has increased the capacity to generate the best program possible for Lancaster students.

Working to Win

While many business executives and members of the Chamber of Commerce in Greenville County want and are getting direct access to the classroom, the McDonald's Corporation has been working in a project aimed at giving the working high school student a taste of the responsibilities involved in holding down a job while fulfilling their academic obligations.

Students at Southside, Donaldson, and Foothills who want to work part-time at a McDonald's restaurant have to promise - in writing - to pass their courses, behave in class, and have no more than 10 absences or tardinesses per year. The program, which will undoubtedly be expanded to other high schools, grew out of the desire of local businesses who wanted to be more involved in improving education than in simply giving donations. From discussions of how businesses could reinforce educational policy, as well as the fact that students who are consistently late for class will probably be late for work, came the contract which spells out the criteria and the penalties, ranging from a reduction in the number of hours the student is permitted to work to possible dismissal. But while the emphasis seems to be on the harsh side of economic reality, there are compensations: recognition is made for students who are doing well, and certain exceptions can be made for students taking an advanced class or participating in demanding extracurricular activities, such as sports.

One demanding extracurricular activity at Carolina High School is the academic team, which was recently able to compete in the national championship in Dallas, thanks to a $3000 donation from Wanger systems Corporation, which has adopted Carolina. Under the guidance of Coach Ray Garrick, who has coached six teams at Carolina, of which three have gone to Dallas, the team raised half of the money from bake sales, car washes, and individual donations. After losing the county championship to Mauldin High School, the Carolina team won the Winthrop Challenge, which made it eligible for the Dallas competition.

Competition of a different kind - learning a foreign language - has been made possible at Grove Elementary School by a grant of $1200 from Richard E. Greer, owner and president of Intex Products, Inc. of Greenville and the Piedmont-based Swiss-Tex. State Representative Tim Brett was instrumental in bringing together the companies and the PTA, which provided the other half of the amount necessary to hire the part-time instructor. The students study Spanish three days a week and put their lessons to practical application by writing letters to young victims of the earthquake in Mexico. If the program works well, the school may try to raise money to continue it. School officials are also considering adding another language.

Partners for Progress

Greenwood Partners for Progress, a joint project of the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce and Greenwood School District 50, held a recruitment/orientation breakfast in late September, 1985, in one of the school cafeterias. Approximately one hundred people turned out, from which 30 — 35 strong prospects are developing. Several of the larger firms, such as Greenwood Mills, responded by sending several representatives. This number of prospects is actually larger than needed for the district's fourteen schools, but ways are being found to involve anyone who is interested, either as a district-wide partner, as a supporter of the new attendence incentive program, or as a contributor to the new "Equipment Bank."

Implementation of the partnership will be accomplished through the Public Information Office of Greenwood School District 50 with the joint Chamber - School District committee acting as an advisory group. School principals have already filled out needs assessment forms, and businesses are currrently being visited; matching was begun within two weeks of the first meeting.

The committee will continue to monitor the activities and to offer communication and follow-up guidance through occasional newsletters and infrequent breakfast meetings or other social/purposeful get-togethers. Everyone feels that it is important to maintain the sense of group spirit that has already been shown in this enterprise.

Heavy Metal

Lexington County School District Four began its Adopt-A-School Program in 1982. In 1976, and many years before, the district considered formally beginning this type of business/education partnership when a new industry began in Gaston. It came with an extended hand of friendship to the school district.

At that time, AT&T Nassau Metals was in a phase of construction, landscaping and grading. Upon request, this company immediately responded with a willingness to share its engineers and other personnel's expertise, time, labor and the use of equipment in the design and layout of Swansea High's football field and parking area.

This kind of generosity and sharing has proven characteristic of AT&T Nassau Metal's relationship with Lexington Four schools, and the beginning of a relationship that resulted in South Carolina's Board of Education choosing Nassau as one of the five recipients out of thirty-three business nominations in the State Board's Awards Program held in January 1986 for significant contributions made by businesses to public education.

Nassau demonstrated its seriousness of being a strong and cooperative partner in education by being one of the first businesses to join the Adopt-A-School Program. Swansea Elementary School recently received three electric typewriters for teacher and office use and a large quantity of paper as a result of this union.

Nassau's cooperative association with Lexington Four benefits students directly and enhances the quality of their education. The Junior Achievement programs in Lexington Four offer students practical experience forming their own companies, producing and marketing a product, and dividing capital and profit among shareholders. Over a year's time, Nassau has relinquished as many as eight executives to work with students weekly. Presently, two representatives share concepts of free enterprise and career opportunities with middle and high school students.

Steve Szymanski, public relations officer for AT&T Nassau Metals answers students' questions concerning communication during "Career Week" at Frances F. Mack Elementary School in Gaston.

More than manpower and time are shared. Necessary equipment, textbooks, written materials, tools, and other required items are provided by the industry, in addition to first-hand information and experience in the business world.

Nassau promotes a good working relationship with the schools and community by welcoming student groups to visit and learn from the many facets of the industry's operations. District administrators, principals, teachers, and community groups have been invited to tour the facility.

As working partners in the educational process, the schools and community benefit by having representatives from this industry serve on the Vocational Education Advisory Council and the District Advisory Committee to promote a better education and to prepare students for the business world.

School's resources are strengthened with monetary support, such as registration fees for the Midlands Academic Competitions and grants, and the Entrepreneurship Program in the Vocational Education Program. The use of an IBM computer, software, copper wire, plastics, wood and safety goggles are examples of instructional materials and supplies that students use in the classrooms. Mentors and speakers representing the various management levels and professionals from

AT&T Nassau Metals volunteer their time and expertise in the classrooms as resource speakers in the elementary through secondary grade levels. These persons serve an indispensable role during "Career Week" in the schools.

There has been no limit to the efforts Nassau has made to strengthen ties with the schools and community. Recently, the industry donated the copper for the "time capsule" which was organized and buried by Swansea High School officials to be opened in fifty years.

Materials and the many needed items that AT&T Nassau Metals has shared with its school district have made it worthy of recognition, and a genuine concern for the community/business/education relationship has been repeatedly demonstrated.

The Shadow Knows

Faculty members in Spartanburg School District 3 have been introduced to a unique educational experience, thanks to the efforts of Ralph W. Bredenbeck, production manager at Spartanburg Steel and chairman of the Joint Machine Tool Technology Advisory Committee. The project, called "Educators-In-Industry," gives teachers, many of whom have never been outside an academic setting, a more precise idea of what kind of background people must have to get and keep jobs in industry. With strong support from District Superintendent Dr. James Buie, teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators "shadow" at Spartanburg Technical College, where they perform the same tasks required for persons training for a particular job. Not only do they, therefore, get a better awareness of the conditions and opportunities in local industry, they can also earn graduate credit from the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg. But more importantly, they will be better able to communicate to their students, from elementary to high school, what really goes on in the industrial world. At the present stage, this indirect contact is the only way that students are involved, but the goal is that the teachers will bring promising students to visit the industrial sites and that industry will, in turn, sponsor traineeships and scholarships. Given the current shortage of trained people in certain areas, such as the tool and die industry, the monetary benefits, as well as the career opportunities, should attract students with high aptitudes and interest.

A Spartanburg Technical College student assists District 3 Assistant Superintendent Roy Fowler and fifth grade teacher Berthenia Jefferies with their shadowing experience. Part of the Educators-In-Industry program, the shadowing experience, gives educators the opportunity to perform a specific job.

Tranter Cares

Tranter, Edgefield Division, was the first company to enter into a Business/Education Partnership with the Edgefield County School District. The District has nominated Tranter for the Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service and feels that the communication between Tranter and W.E. Parker Elementary School is exceptionally strong. A few examples of that communication support that contention.

Tranter sent individual letters welcoming each student to the 1985-86 school year; the letters prompted the students to do their very best. At grade time each student whose name appeard on the Honor Roll or Distinguished Honor Roll received a letter commending him or her. In return, the students in the sixth grade language class wrote letters to Tranter's employees as a practice for a friendly letter. The letters were given out at a plant meeting, and all of the employees enjoyed receiving the letters.

Honor roll students were also honored by having their names put on the cafeteria bulletin board, along with a memo congratulating them. Parents of these students were asked to sign their names alongside their children's names. Tranter started an Honor Roll Incentive competition with other adopters to motivate students who have not made the Honor Roll to achieve better grades. Students who had shown improvement were given hats and plastic cups with Tranter's logo on them.

During the holidays, Tranter carried treats: rulers with "Adopted by Tranter" and candy for the students, and gifts for the teachers. They also sponsored a food drive for needy families. Tranter employees filled two huge boxes with food and took it to the teachers for distribution. For awards day, Tranter employees judged essays written by teachers for students chosen for the Distinguished Service Award. The Citizenship Awards were given to two students from the sixth grade and two from the seventh grade.

Tranter showed its appreciation of the teachers by giving them carnations. The math teacher was also given a check for the MathCounts program.

Perhaps the best indication of the enthusiasm of Tranter's employees came during a recent meeting, the topic of which was supposedly employee benefits. When the employees learned of the activities of the Business/Education Partnership, the executives received more input into the school program than into the discussion of company benefits. The involvement of the company as a whole proves the commitment from Tranter toward building a stronger community and school system.

Ideas, Images and Incentives

The overall Business/Education Partnership between the Trident Chamber of Commerce and the Charleston County School District has been paying off in a myriad of ways. Among them have been the partnerships between the Post/Courier newspapers and Pepperhill Elementary School, between Coburg Diary and St. Andrews Elementary, between Charleston Place (an OMNI hotel) and James Simmons Elementary, between the Marriott Hotel and Goodwin Elementary, between Wild Dunes and Laing Middle School, and between Piggly Wiggly and Buist Academy. Each of these ventures stresses the three aspects of a good Business/Education Partnership: recognition, cooperation, and improvement, each mutually beneficial.

Pepperhill * Post/Courier

Pepperhill Elementary Media Center Specialist Barbara Pierce and Post/Courier Educational Services Director and coordinator for the Business/Education Partnership Program David Keathley are combining their talents on a program designed to promote better reading through the use of video tape equipment. With a state grant, Ms. Pierce will produce student news and feature video shows, with Mr. Keathley assisting in production and acting as editor and technical advisor. The results, which will demonstrate how the students have learned to determine what is news and how that information can be effectively presented, will be submitted to the State Board of Education for review at the end of the school year. The Post/Courier is also printing and providing both Honor Roll certificates for students at Pepperhill as well as a newsletter which is distributed both to parents and Post/Courier employees. Not all is strictly business, though: the Post/Courier also provides flowers and recognition for the staff member of the month and Pepperhill students decorate the North Charleston office with their art work.

Goodwin * Marriott

The Marriott Hotel and Goodwin Elementary School also enjoy an exemplary relationship, one in which the Marriott employees and the students at Goodwin are collecting labels from Downy fabric softener and Comet cleanser to be redeemed by Proctor and Gamble for a telescope to enchance the school's science program. But this is only part of a much larger pattern of cooperation between the school and the hotel, which has been recognized as one of the more efficient in the Marriott organization. The administrations of both have perceived that teamwork makes things work better, so the Marriott's compitroller, public relations director, groundskeeper, and chef are advising the school as a team in matters of finance, marketing, landscaping, and what is known in the culinary arts as "presentation." But cooperation is a two-way street, so the school faculty and staff make themselves available to the staff of the Marriott in such ways as providing third-party exchange concerning the educa tion of the children of the Marriott's employees (regardless of which school they are attending) and general morale boosts on a regular basis. The students at Goodwin also contribute their share to the morale of the staff by singing periodically in the restaurant and by decorating the tree at Christmas time. Soon forth coming is tangible recognition of the Teacher-of-the-Quarter, who will get a weekend at the Marriott; and of the Student-of-the-Month, who will get a pool party for him- or herself and five friends. With incentives like these, the team spirit of Goodwin and the Marriott will be on the rise for many years to come.

Laing * Wild Dunes

Wild Dunes and Laing Middle School entered into a business/education partnership in 1983. With the company philosophy "more than a great resort - a great neighbor", the formation of this partnership was a natural. Laing, which provides exciting educational opportunities for students, serves not only the Wild Dunes resort community, but also Sullivan's Island, Isle of Palms, and part of the Mount Pleasant area.

Following the fanfare of the partnership signing ceremony, the relationship has evolved into a corporate-school commitment to foster and promote community interest in Laing Middle School. Major areas in which Wild Dunes provides support relate to student achievement and student participation at the school.

At the end of each marking period an exemplary student from each homeroom is honored at an awards luncheon catered by the Island House, one of the resort restaurants at Wild Dunes. All school staff members are invited and Anne Burn, a vice president of Wild Dunes, and Robert Strous, principal of Laing, present each student with a certificate which recognizes achievement. This year over 100 students have been selected for this special honor.

In addition to the awards luncheon, Wild Dunes fosters the scholastic program in several ways. Career week units are made real with a tour of resort facilities which includes an explanation of the varied career opportunities that are available. When students participated in state and national level Odyssey of the Mind competition, Wild Dunes supplied financial support. In the future special projects such as the South Carolina Arts Commission visiting artist series at Laing will receive assistance from Wild Dunes.

The business/education partnership is not limited to the scholastic program. Wild Dunes has worked in conjunction with Laing Middle School to provide graphic design and printing assistance in the production of a brochure which publicizes the school. A landscape plan was supplied by Jim Langston, director of landscaping at Wild Dunes; this plan provided the final touch to the extensive building renovation at Laing. Dedication of the new physical plant with catering assistance provided by Wild Dunes is scheduled for April 27, 1986.

The concept of maximizing community involvement in public schools is emphasized by the partnership. As Wild Dunes and Laing have grown and expanded so has the partnership and the most important fact is that the students and community have benefited from the partnership of Laing and Wild Dunes.

St. Andrews * Coburg Dairy

As a result of nearly-continual redrawing of school zone lines, St. Andrews Elementary was having a problem with its image — until Coburg Diary stepped in. Individual employees of Coburg Diary put in many hours touching up the paint job, building steps to reach the water coolers, landscaping, and generally doing the "little" things that a small school in a large district needs and cannot always expect a requisition to accomplish. Throw in an apparently unique program for school bus safety, in which the bus whose passengers have the best behavior gets to display a metallic "Best Bus Award," and you have the appearance of a good school. This appearance, however, was not good enough for Principal Floyd Funderburg and Coburg Diary, who together mounted an aggressive campaign to project the positive aspects of St. Andrews Elementary to a community that had come to perceive primarily the negative ones. Coburg Diary's management rallied to the school's aid with the loan of its commercial theme song (with lyrics suitably modified to "Better than WE have to be"); then school officials and management produced a slide show to complement it, and held Open House to successfully convince residents of the area that St. Andrews Elementary lives up to its claims.

Buist * Piggly Wiggly

Buist Academy is Charleston County's acclaimed Magnet School, which draws its students from all parts of the community. With over 2,000 applicants for the 300 desks, Buist Academy offers courses in such subjects as foreign languages and computers in grades K — 6. In collaboration with its Business/Education Partner, Piggly Wiggly Carolina, the school is constantly experimenting with new approaches to creating and maintaining the level

of excitement that accompanied its opening. One of the many programs is the "Mystery Monitor," in which an objective third party walks through the school looking for new and up-beat activities. The teacher selected is recognized in the principal's daily newsletter and given a bag of M&M's for "Mystery Monitor." In addition to a myriad of small but important efforts like this, Piggly Wiggly Carolina, which was very involved in the early stages of marketing the idea of the magnet school, has also designed and printed brochures for Buist Academy. Expressing the enthusiasm of the company, its newsletter, *Piggly Wiggly Pride*, says, "...the next time you hear someone (being) highly critical of the school system, you might tell them they could change all that BY GETTING INVOLVED!"

Simons * Charleston Place

Although Charleston Place, an OMNI hotel, will not open for business until September 1986, its staff and the students, faculty, and staff of James Simons Elementary School have already taken their partnership out of the planning stage with two interesting activities: they participated jointly in Clean City Sweep Day ,and recently, eight fifth grade students — along with Nathaniel Washington, the principal; Ms. Quirkel, the guidance counselor; and Ms. Singletary, the speech therapist — served a typical school day lunch to the working staff at Charleston Place. And this is just the beginning: at the Grand Opening on September 2, both Charleston Place and James Simons Elementary will fly a flag indicating their partnership, and Charleston Place will provide buttons to recognize Distinguished Achievement by students. Having already helped on one Career Day, the staff of Charleston Place will continue to support this activity, as well as help at the annual PTA carnival and make periodical personal visits. By the same token, the faculty of James Simons will be treated to a banquet at Charleston Place and have the meeting rooms available for meetings and other functions. The entire staff at James Simons will also be able to attend training seminars , and Charleston Place's landscapers are looking over the small lot on which the school is situated with an eye to making whatever improvements are possible when hundreds of little feet must occupy the same ground. With all this succes behind them both James Simons and Charleston Place can look forward to years of productive cooperation.

Charleston Place Staff enjoy lunch served by James Simons Elementary School students

The Role of the TCC

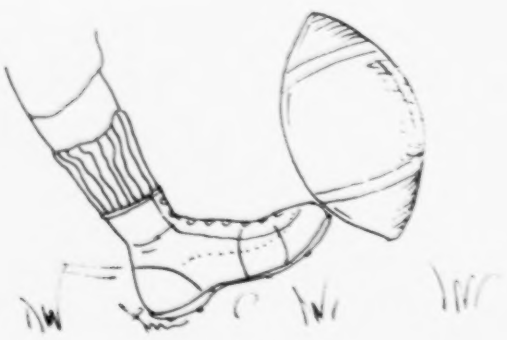
Much of the credit for developing the Business/ Education Partnership in Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties must be given to The Trident Chamber of Commerce, which has co-sponsored the program as a whole since the beginning. In a manner that is still unique in the state, the Chamber and the school districts of the three Lowcountry counties encourage three kinds of cooperation: the partnership between an individual school and a business, the recognition of special programs by civic groups, and the district-wide partnership between a business and a special program, such as the adoption by the area's three Holiday Inns of Special Education or the donation by 3M Outdoor of billboard space. Experience state-wide shows that the stronger and broader the support of the business community as a whole, the more effective and lasting the results are likely to be; if this continues to be true, then students in the Trident area will continue to enjoy even more support in the future.

Kicking off the BEP

The School District of Williamsburg County held its "Kick-Off Ceremony" for its Business Education Partnership Program on September, 25, 1985 in the Santee Electric Cooperative Auditorium. Approximately forty businesses, ranging from locally owned grocery, auto parts, hardware, and furniture stores to corporate giants like McDonald's, Oxford Industries, and Tupperware Manufacturing, participated. Regardless of size, however, all of the new partners had one goal in mind: improving the quality of education in Williamsburg County.

According to Superintendent Columbus J. Giles, Sr., every school in the district has formed partnerships, and the district is very proud of that. And Pam Little, District Coordinator for the Program, added that businesses should keep in mind that the schools are not the only recipient of benefits from the partnerships, that the businesses gain from fulfilling obligation to help raise the quality of good prospects for employment, as well as enhancing their image in the community.

Since the kickoff this spirit of cooperation has been demonstrated consistently. A few examples are the donations by Pepsi-Cola toward a score clock at Hemingway High School and by Tupperware for technology equipment at the Hemingway Area Vocational Center; a cookout provided by the Kiwanis Club for special students at Kingstree Elementary; and the Halloween decoration of windows at McDonald's by art students at Kingstree Senior High School.



Getting Things Under Way

Though Berkeley High School and the Charleston Naval Station and Boulder Bluff Elementary School and the City of Goose Creek entered official partnership just last November, they are well on their way to developing goals and carrying out projects.

The school administrators and the business contacts have visited one another and have gained a fundamental understanding of each other's business.

"Having an understanding of the business of city government gives me a knowledge of how Boulder Bluff Elementary School and the City of Goose Creek can work together," says Principal Brooks Moore.

The first order of business was the forming of a committee composed of Principal Moore, City Supervisor Dennis Harmon, Police Chief Richard Runonola, and Fire Chief L.B. Holland. The first cooperative venture will be a Neighborhood Clean-Up Campaign in May; the second will be the selection of the Teacher of the Year. But the most impressive program is the assigning of a police officer and and a fireman to each homeroom as part of the school's health and safety program. Since these personnel will be deeply involved with the members of the homeroom over a lengthy period of time, they will be able to delve into aspects of safety that go far beyond the ordinary "lock your doors" and "don't play with matches," though these everyday, too-often-overlooked causes of accidents will, of course, not be ignored. With this deep, long-lasting cooperation, students at Boulder Bluff will be extremely well-informed on these — literally — vital matters.

"I want our relationship with Berkeley High School to be a lasting one," said Captain James Rodgers, commanding officer at the Naval Station. "I don't want this to be something we get excited about in the beginning and then just forget about later," he says.

"We have so many resources to share with Berkeley High School," he said. "We can invite students and staff members on base and we can go directly to the schools to provide learning experiences," he said.

"I feel so good about the positive way in which the Naval Station and Captain Rodgers have received us," said Berkeley High School Principal Charles Hill. "The people in this organization are genuinely concerned about the students and want to share their resources with us," he said.

"One goal of our partnership in particular is to plan activities which promote academics and the implementation of the Education Improvement Act," he said. "For example, we hope to have an academic awards banquet, to honor students for achievement. Captain Rodgers has already promised he will be the speaker," he said.

"We have been involved in the Business/Education Partnership Program since it was established by the Trident Chamber of Commerce in 1980," says Superintendent Henry E. Bonner. "The school district feels grateful that we have such progressive business leaders who see the benefit of working with the schools."

Fire Chief L.B. Holland and Police Chief Richard Runonala eat lunch with students at Boulder Bluff Elementary School. Also enjoying lunch are two city policewomen.

Captain James Rodgers, commander of the Charleston Naval Station, and Principal Charles Hill discuss goals for the new year at a meeting at the Naval Station.

Getting a considerable jump on their Berkeley County neighbors, the Naval Weapons Station formed its partnership with the three base schools — Marrington Elementary, Marrington Middle, and Mendel Rivers Elementary — in 1980, making theirs one of the first in the tri-county area. Among the many activities, including extensive safety programs, that focus on ways of helping the students, certainly the setting up of a foreign language lab in the library is one of the most striking. Unlike many such labs, which are governed by the interests of the faculty alone, this one is flexible because the population of the student body may at different times have a different number of students who speak a foreign language, either natively or by virtue of having lived in a foreign country. The activities of the lab can, therefore, reflect the changes in this student population.

But students are not the only beneficiaries of this partnership, for the base places heavy emphasis on recognizing teachers, especially Teachers of the Year, who receive plaques and other forms of acknowledgement.

Berkeley School District is one of the three districts whose programs are co-sponsored by the Trident Chamber of Commerce.

A Dream Comes True

While dreams don't often become reality, the dream of one young woman in Florence did. The dream of providing elementary-age boys and girls with afternoon Homework Centers has been realized through the involvement of concerned and caring businesses, businesses who recognized the need and who committed themselves to improving the quality of life and education for young people.

The Adopt-A-School program was in full swing in Florence District One with business and community involvement growing rapidly when Linda Coleman-Cook, a teacher with Adult Education in Housing and Industry, had an idea! She shared this idea with three community and education-minded businesses and the idea ultimately became Florence District One's first Homework Center, a new dimension of the District's Adopt-A-School program.

Mrs. Coleman-Cook's office is located in the Churchill Project or Community where there are numerous children with mothers and fathers who must work. These children, for the most part, are latch-key children in the afternoon with little supervision or access to any type of assistance with homework problems or questions.

Also located in the Churchill Community is Flav-O-Rich Dairy, MECO, and Rental Uniforms. When approached by Mrs. Coleman-Cook concerning the need of these young people, these three companies, were anxious to help and grateful for the opportunity. It gave them pleasure to be part of and contribute to the progress of the community and its people. Something as meaningful as a Homework Center was, to them, a worthy cause to support.

Not only did the Center, located in the community building of the project, become a haven for these young boys and girls, but it became a center of learning where they could study and receive homework assistance under the tutelage of two certified elementary teachers and one volunteer.

The Center, which is open from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, for grades K - 6, has been a boon and a blessing to the entire community. While the businesses provided the funding for the teachers' salaries and some of the needed supplies, the Housing Authority eagerly donated the space. The Florence County Library Extension, located in the project, volunteered the use of their encyclopedias or any resource material needed by the students to complete homework assignments.

"Learning, because of the Homework Center, has become a fun experience for these children," said Linda Coleman-Cook. The feedback from the students' regular teachers has unequivocably indicated that the Center has made a marked difference in not only the quality of work but in the overall attitude of the children toward school and learning. The program has been so overwhelmingly successful that Florence District One has felt compelled to share it so others might have an opportunity to reap similar benefits and rewards.

These rewards have been worth all the effort and are apparent each day in the hopeful, excited faces of the children. The success of the Homework Center has served to reinforce that, hand-in-hand, business and education working together *CAN* make a difference.

Square D Gets Around

Six years ago Lower Richland High School and the Square D Company became the first business/education partnership in Richland One's Adopt-A-School Program. Time has seasoned this successful partnership. Both school and business have deepened their commitment to improve public education through community involvement and support.

The partnership has many projects that are conducted throughout the school year. The success of these projects is the result of good planning and consistent communication on the part of both school and business coordinators. Breakfast meetings, held monthly, have strengthened partnership communication; activities based on school needs and business resources are developed at these meeting.

A major emphasis in Richland One this year has been quality staff development. Lower Richland and Square D decided to implement a unique training program that would be of help to the school staff. The training program chosen was Interaction Management, a course of study which is frequently used by corporations for developing effective supervisory skills. Three administrators and nine department heads participated in the three-day workshop, which involved lectures, role-play- duct the training. Lower Richland High School paid for the necessary materials, and the school district provided substitutes. Participants agree that this outstanding learning experience helps them as leaders in their school.

Square D, a company that manufactures industrial electronic controls, conducts safety inspections of the school's vocational equipment,and employees are frequently asked to judge school science fair projects. In addition, Square D awards a $1000 renewable college scholarship in engineering, business management, or computer science for minority students. In return, Health Occupation students will screen all Square D employees for vision and blood pressure. Square D and Lower Richland have also joined forces to organize a Teacher-In-Industry program, whose goal is to help teachers increase their understanding of conditions and trends in the private sector. Teachers will have an opportunity to rediscover how English, math, science and social studies relate to the needs of their students, the future workers and members of society.

We've Got It Sewed Up

Sewing plays a part in two unrelated but interesting Business/Education Partnerships in Abbeville County. At Abbeville High School, two teachers in the Home Economics Department, Cindy Chihasz and Rebecca Fernandez, wrote letters to area businesses soliciting equipment to upgrade the program. The response has been gratifying: five new Singer sewing machines; a glassed-in bulletin board from Bloomsburg Mills ; and fabric, which will be used to make draperies in several classes, lap quilts for senior citizens, and wall hangings to be used throughout the school, was donated by Milliken Mills. The teachers were also able to purchase a new range with appropriated money, and, thanks to Duke Power Company's Exchange Program, they will be able to replace it each year with a new model — without additional cost to the department. They plan to continue their equipment drive, adding two more ranges, a refrigerator, and more sewing machines.

Meanwhile, at the Abbeville Career Vocational Center, students have the opportunity to train for jobs in clothing manufacturing on two highly specialized pieces of sewing equipment lent by Abbeville Manufacturing. Plant manager Wyatt Shirley was responsible for obtaining permission to lend the yoking and felling machines, which are used in the manufacture of Calvin Klein Jeans at the plant. Mr. Shirley praised the quality of the workers who were trained at the Center and said that those completing the course using the new machines are almost guaranteed a job. The work by Bobby Crosby, the Director of the Abbeville Career Vocational Center, in this and other programs has not gone unrecognized: the State Department of Education has selected as a model program and as such it will serve as a demonstration site for in-state and out-of-state visitors seeking information.

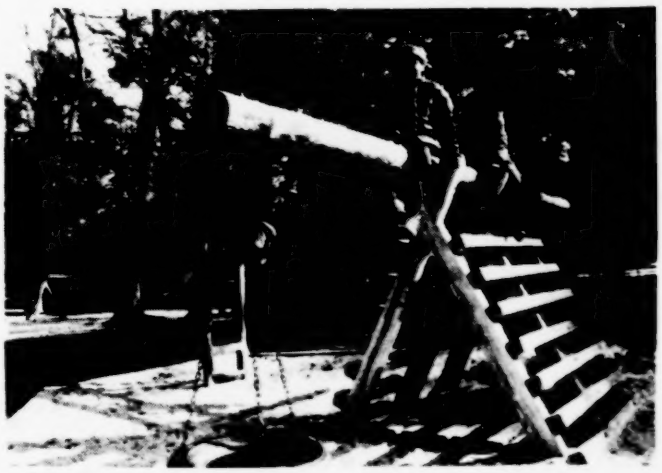
Financial matters of a more abstract nature are not neglected in Abbeville, where social studies teachers are encouraged to use the resources of the Young Bankers Division of the South Carolna Bankers Association's "Bank-In - South Carolina Schools" program. Judy Winn of Bankers Trust is the County Chairman; her responsibility is to make presentations on a wide range of topics at the convenience of all elementary, middle, and high school teachers. Bank tours can also be arranged, and visual aids are used to supplement the oral presentations, thus stimulating interest as well as educating students in bank-related operations and financial operations. Representing the industry as a whole and not promoting their individual banks, Ms. Winn and the other bankers who participate in the program are prepared to discuss the history of financial institutions, the monetary system, consumer finance, and other topics of interest.

The "Berry" Best

Julie Smith, one of the many reasons Royall is "Berry" best!

When Julie Smith arrived last Spring as Royall Elementary School's new principal, one of her primary goals was to expnd the school's resources and to broaden the educational opportunities for children through the development of an active and enthusiastic Adopt-a-School program. Her success can be measured in terms of sheer quantity — she has found seventeen adopters for Royall — but more importantly she now has the flexibility to choose from areas of expertise that range from banking to contracting to balloon arrangements.

Students Kellie Miller (l) and Bennett Phillips (r) proudly display Adopt-A-School plaques.



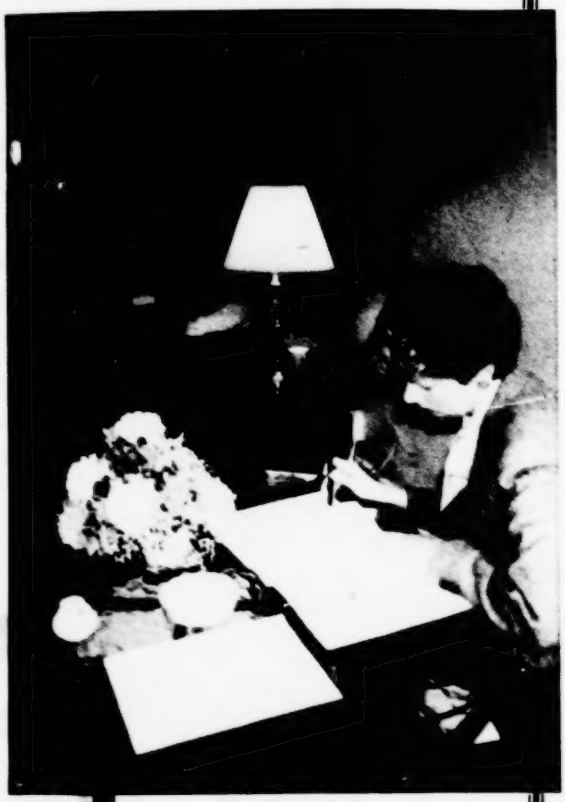
Royall students delight in new playground equipment, left to right - Rangeley Bailey, Dustin Holladay, Jessie Hood, Chris Bridges.

The physical plant has reaped the benefits of the program. A dingy faculty lounge was transformed into a warm, pleasant, inviting environment by the generous contribution of time, money, paint, and carpet by one of the adopters, who prefers to remain anonymous; the adopter is also working to remodel the healthroom. Fleet Funding, another adopter, provided teachers with an IBM Selectric typewriter for their use in creating instructional material, and much-needed office furniture was provided by First Citizens Bank.

Royall staff members received financial advice and counseling by the A.L. Williams Co., and special activities at Royall have been extra special due to the attractive balloon arrangements from Funtastic Balloons. Several other adopters have made financial contributions which will be used to address specific school needs. And Royall will never want for resource speakers or field trip sponsors, because all of the adopters have volunteered to serve in these capacities.

On the academic side, student achievement has been significantly enhanced by the tangible awards provided to deserving students by First Citizen's honor roll awards and Burger King's redeemable certificates. Three interested parents recognized the need for playground improvements and made a tremendous contribution in the form of modern, safe, and enticing playground equipment.

"The belief that businesses can and should have a positive impact on the quality of education in South Carolina cannot be overemphasized," says Mrs. Smith, who credits the emphasis placed on Business/Education partnerships by the Education Improvement Act, as well as Mr. James G. Womack, Florence District One's foresighted superintendent, for the success of Royall's program. "I am very proud of our program," she says, "and extremely grateful for the support cooperation provided Royall by its adopters."



Ann Floyd (l) teacher, and Julie Smith (r) principal enjoy the pleasant surroundings in the teachers lounge

Books 'n' Balloons

"Reading is challenging" was the theme of a recent project by fourth grade students at Bamberg Elementary School in Bamberg School District One. Sponsored by Mr. Randy Maxwell, Executive Vice-President of The Enterprise Bank, the project was designed by teachers to stimulate the desire to read and to motivate students to do more reading at the fourth grade level.

A total of 61 students participated in the project, which required that they read books on an appropriate reading level, complete a book report form and a paragraph summary of each book's content, and give an oral report to or answer questions for the entire class. A minimum of five books was required for inculsion in the program, but one student read 39! In all, 570 books were read.

The climax of the project was a Balloon Release held on the athletic field on February 20. Helium-filled balloons, each representing a book read, were released; attached to each balloon was a card which read, "This balloon is flying because I, (name) read the book listed on the back of this card for a fourth grade project at Bamberg Elementary School, Bamberg, SC."

Preceding the release of the these balloons the students conducted a special service commemorating the deaths of the seven Challenger astronauts, during which a biographical sketch of each astronaut was read and seven special balloons were released.

An earlier project, also sponsored by the Enterprise Bank, served as a stepping stone for the current effort. Plans call for a continuation of the program with other area businesses involved as sponsors.

Business

Expanding the involvement to the entire business community, the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce has taken a step toward exercising positive control in the educational system in York School District 3. Members of the Chamber have written a nine-week course called "The World of Business" and have obtained the permission of the State Department of Education to award economic credit in the two Rock Hill secondary schools, Rock Hill High and Northwestern High. The course, taught by members of the Chamber of Commerce, covers all the components of applied economics, that is, of the working world, from finance and utilities to health care.

C of C, SCN, & Thursdays, Too

Among the many successful partnerships in Rock Hill School District 3 of York County, the one between South Carolina National Bank and Northwestern High School is especially outstanding. SCN Vice-President Bill Neely has been a dynamic force in making this partnership exceed that of merely a formal agreement, and principal Earl Lovelace has involved his teachers in every phase of planning and implementation.

It was, in fact, a committee of teachers who devised the four major goals of the partnership: to supply enrichment through guest speakers, field trips, and tours; to establish strategies for marketing Northwestern's program to the community; to share the bank's techniques of staff development; and to increase teacher appreciation. Meeting the fourth goal began at a catered party held during the time usually scheduled for a faculty meeting. There bank employees got to know the teachers and staff better, and Bill Neely told them, "I cannot open the vault for you, but I will help you figure out a way to get what you need."

Since then Mr. Neely and other bank employees have been busy keeping that promise. From helping the French club raise the cash to sponsor a bike race to providing a meal for the football team as they entered the Big 16 playoffs, from purchasing a month's airtime in three minute spots so economics students could get started in broacasting to bringing Terry Dozier, the National Teacher of the Year to the high school, Northwestern has profited tremendously from its partnership with SCN.

SCN Vice-President Bill Neely (right) presents Northwestern Principal Earl Lovelace with a Partnership Wreath

Joint projects planned for the future include the putting together of a top-notch computer lab and establishing a travelling trophy to recognize the outstanding accomplishments by a school club.

On a smaller but no less important scale in Rock Hill District 3 of York County, Kathy Bigham, the owner-operator of Thursday's Too, a local restaurant, serves as a member of the School Improvement Council of Richmond Drive Elementary School. She and her husband, Larry, are hard workers for education, so it came as no surprise when Kathy began to come up with some of her own ideas for helping the Adopt-a-School partnership program.

Pumpkins from Thrusdays, Too

One of the activities that are part of the Thursday's Too adoption of Richmond Drive was a special Halloween treat. Several employees made pumpkin costumes and visited the first and second grade students to distribute treats and read stories.

To reciprocate, over one hundred students have been to visit the restaurant to observe the behind-the-scenes operations, as well as see the posters informing the patrons of the Richmond Drive Volunteer Program.

Presently, Thursday's Too is helping principal Paul Cawley with support for his trip as presenter at the NAESP Convention.

Banks,

The "Bank-in-South Carolina Schools" program of Young Bankers Division of the South Carolina Bankers Association is one of the most active in the nation, with both the highest percentage of students contacted annually (a total of some 50,000 last year) and the number of banks participating. Open to any district who requests their services, the program selects a local representative who is available to make presentations of a wide range of topics at the convenience of elementary, middle, and high school teachers. They will address single or multiple classroom sessions or assembly programs.

Representing the banking industry as a whole and not promoting their individual banks, the representatives are prepared to discuss the history of financial institutions, the monetary system, consumer finance, and a host of other interesting and useful subjects, using visual aids to stimulate and educate students about bank-related operations and financial activities.

Buses

The Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company has formed a partnership with the South Carolina school bus transportation system. To identify the outstanding student school bus drivers at each high school, the State Department of Education has established criteria, among which is the requirement that the driver have an accident-free record. On the school's Awards Day, the driver will be presented with an engraved trophy and a framed letter of recognition from the Chairman of the Board of the Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company. Besides wanting to encourage safe driving practices among these young drivers who bear so much responsibility, Colonial was interested in this safety program for another reason: the Columbia-based company started business by offering school bus insurance; they are still showing their concern in a tangible manner.

& Backyards

The Telephone Pioneers of South Carolina is an organization of long-term employees of Southern Bell. These people sponsor projects of major scope in two categories: community service and environmental protection. For two years the South Carolina Telephone Pioneers have endorsed the education of youth as the most viable means of preservation and conservation. This year the Pioneers are helping enlarge upon the activities of National Wildlife Week 1986 · March 16-22. (This year is the fiftieth anniversary of the National Wildlife Federation).

Letters will be sent to every school in the State explaining to the science departments the many activities, competitions, and awards. This project will represent a sizable contribution to schools and students willing to participate in specified environmental education activities. Every student completing a project will receive a certificate appropriate for Awards Day ceremonies. Up to 144 gifts will be awarded regionally to students throughout the State for outstanding Backyard Habitats and Science Research Projects (grades 4-12). In addition, there will be six $50 Savings Bonds awarded at the state level.

The State Department of Education asked that the Pioneers encourage schools to develop habitats (nature trails) for the purpose of observation and study.

Awards of $500, $300, and $100 will be provided to the science departments of the three schools developing the most outstanding school wildlife habitats. A partnership of magnitude has developed as the Garden Clubs of South Carolina, Inc., the PTA of South Carolina, and the Soil Conservation Service have also agreed to promote and assist schools in their efforts to form these habitats. Art departments will also have the opportunity to win awards of $500, $300, and $100 for the outstanding project supporting the National Wildlife Week activities.

The entire purpose of the project is to reward academicians and students for environmental education directed towards protection. Youth, as viewed by the South Carolina Telephone Pioneers, are the hope of a better world tomorrow. The philosophy underlying this investment of time, energy, and resources is that appropriately directed academics create the habits of a lifetime.

The Meaning of Adoption

It started with 16, now it's up to 54. That's the number of adopters at Myrtle Beach Primary, in Horry County. The partnership has enabled the school to begin such activities as a gifted and talented program, which allows early identification of gifted students, and to purchase a computer for the school.

But the financial help, as important as it is in a time of receding budgets, plays a secondary role compared with the encouragement and understanding that has been the main objective all along. It fact, it was the concern of J.D. Flowers of Myrtle Beach Seafood and a few other business leaders and citizens that got the ball rolling several years ago. Their contribution has supported strategies focusing on a broader parental and community involvement.

At North Myrtle Beach Primary, interested businesspeople, like Peggy Hursey of Jordan Realty and Dick Hester of Hester-Roberts Realty, may adopt a single classroom for as little as $100 a year, but so many volunteers have come forward that the library, the physical education program and the music program have their sponsors as well. The money given to a classroom is used at the discretion of the teacher to buy things that she would otherwise have to purchase herself or do without. Among the materials acquired are globes, aquariums, bulletin board materials, playground equipment, study carrels, puzzles for kindergartners, electronic classroom aids, and flash cards.

Other schools having partnerships are West Conway Middle School, which has Mitch Godwin of the Conway National Bank working as an adopter, and Socastee High School, where a panel composed of members of the Conway Chamber of Commerce selected one of its students as the outstanding student in the county, awarding a $500 scholarship. The Chamber also sponsors a "Salute to Education" program to honor an outstanding student in each high school in the county, as well as the most inspiratonal teacher. Notable speakers, like award-winning Toastmaster Michael Aun, are made available to the schools by the Chamber.

In all, 150 businesses are serving as school adopters at eight schools in the Horry County School District, and Superintendetn John Dawsey says that he would like to see the program in every school.

Something for Everyone

Each of the four schools in Barnwell School District 45 has been adopted by businesses in the community. Because of the varied needs of each school, each business provides services that uniquely match the school's needs with the resources of the business. Barnwell Elementary School, with an enrollment of 1,095 students in grades K-5, is adopted by C&S Bank, Carolina Metals, and Hardee's. Hardee's encourages good attendance and scholastic achievement by rewarding students who have perfect attendance or who make the honor roll with a special treat. C&S Bank displays Barnwell Elementary school activities and student art work. Carolina Metals employees provide science programs and demonstrations showing their equipment to elementary schools.

McDonald's of Barnwell is the adopter of Guinyard-Barnwell Middle School, which has an enrollment of 561 students in grades 6-8. Displays and publicity on special events, school programs, and activities are featured regularly at McDonald's. Students-of-the-Month are treated to lunch at McDonald's. The manager of McDonald's is often called upon by the middle school to speak to classes about small business practices, career guidance, and to provide tours of restaurant.

The Howard Sewell Developmental Center serves students who are handicapped orthopedically, emotionally, and mentally. These fifty-seven students are given parties (complete with entertainment and refreshments) on special occasions such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. These parties, given by adopters Chem-Nuclear Systems and Carolina Metals, provide employees from these industries with the opportunity to visit the school and become familiar with the programs there. Staff members of Sewell Center were recently treated to lunch at a local restaurant on a day of in-service training.

Adopters of Barnwell High School (grades 9-12, enrollment of 683) are the three local drug stores in the community. These businesses provide financial and human resources for various Barnwell High School functions. The school is given aid for transportation to extra-curricular activities on numerous occasions. The school administration depends heavily on the support of these businesses.

One of the special events assisted by local businesses is "On The Job Day." Held annually by the Barnwell High School business department, the project allows students to "work" in a business for a day, thereby gaining valuable knowledge about how businesses operate as well as actual work experience. Businesses assist students in the talented and gifted program during studies about careers. Students select a career they would like to follow after graduation, then work with a person in that career for a period of time.

The business/education partnerships in Barnwell School District 45 are meeting with much success. Expansion of the activities is scheduled.

Conclusion

These reports represent probably only the tip of the Business/Education Partnership iceberg that is spreading rapidly throughout South Carolina. Unlike this metaphorical iceberg, however, these projects are signalling a warm and cordial interest in better schools. The fact that many of these programs were begun at the instigation of concerned citizens should prove conclusively that it is the *citizens* — primarily businesspeople — of the state who are concerned with improving our schools. Likewise, industries moving into South Carolina come here with a willingness to take on the problems they perceive in our educational system. All — perhaps especially those unnamed and therefore unsung in this report — deserve the gratitude of the rest of us.

But while much has been done, much yet remains to be done. A quarter of the state's school districts are included here; therefore three quarters — seventy-two districts — have not raised their voices (in print, to be sure, which is a medium with much affinity to silence) and announced to their fellow South Carolinians, "You are not alone; we are working too; see what we have done!" If this report has any purpose, any validity, let it be that it prompted those who have outstanding Business/Education Partnerships to speak up and to receive the credit which they are due.